

Rumors and facts are flying about the takeover of our media by big corporations - corporations supporting war and sucking in profits from the sacrifices of people's lives. Now it's clear that with Bush in the White House, their warmongering can go on unabated....and now they are willing to tell the biggest of lies at a time too close to the elections for the lies to be refuted by fact. Are we completely sold out to their greed - or can America still have free and unbiased news reporting?

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.